

CHAPTER 3
CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

3-1. Theater Requirement for USACE Support. The USACE forward element commander may support multiple commands within the theater Army and other Service components regardless of the C2. The USACE forward element commander must provide support within the CINC's and component commander's priorities. Customer liaison is critical in refining their requirements and in reassuring customers that their requirements are being met within priorities and resources.

3-2. Theater Mission. The USACE forward element commander is responsible for the following:

a. Planning and design of theater facilities for contract construction consistent with theater policies and standards. Note that actual design and some of the planning may take place in and/or out of sector support area (split based operations).

b. Management of the contract construction program for those countries in which USACE has CCA responsibilities.

c. Quality assurance for contract construction and, upon request, troop construction.

d. Real estate planning, acquisition and disposal.

e. LOGCAP contract management within the AOR.

(1) Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO) for LOGCAP construction as in paragraph 3-2b, above.

(2) Providing technical support for logistics services provided by LOGCAP and, if required, a separate ACO for logistics services.

(3) Provide a project manager (PM) for the USACE LOGCAP contract in support of operations in the TO.

f. Facilitating technical support to users (troop and USACE) of TCMS.

g. All USACE personnel assigned in theater, including those assigned for a short term, specific requirement at the request of another command (e.g., a Corps laboratory mission) or a longer tour in support of any Corps functional mission (e.g., CREST, WDRT, etc.). This/her applies to a Prime Power reconnaissance team, but not a deployed Prime Power unit. The 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) retains command of deployed units which are placed under the OPCON of the Army component command.

h. Providing USACE personnel for staff augmentation or liaison to CINC, JTF and Army component command staff engineers.

3-3. Organization in Support of Theater Missions. The supporting USACE command will establish time-phased deployment TDAs for a forward element HQ (HQ(Fwd)) and for out of sector support organization(s) (split-basing) in order to minimize the number of personnel in the immediate area of operations.

a. HQ(Fwd). The mission of the HQ(Fwd) is to coordinate with customers, support theater planning, execute contract construction and real estate acquisition/disposal missions, provide engineering assistance and provide technical support to users of USACE supported systems.

(1) The HQ(Fwd) will be, in many respects, a mini-district. Depending on the size of the operation and geographical span of operations, the HQ(Fwd) may establish a HQ collocated with the HQ (usually the Army component command) from which it receives its mission guidance. The purpose of USACE HQ(Fwd) is to provide C2 and administrative/logistics support to USACE mission execution elements and liaison to senior HQs.

(2) The HQ(Fwd) commander may establish field offices, subject to theater command³ approval, to effectively support mission execution.

(3) Advise theater commander on the proper appropriations needed to fund theater construction (see Appendix C).

³ The in-theater command from which the HQ(Fwd) receives guidance or has been assigned as OPCON.

b. USACE Rear Support. The parent district HQ will provide rear echelon technical support, financial management support, and command to the HQ(Fwd). While support to OCONUS military operations is the highest priority mission, the district or operating Division Commander will continue to support all other district missions.

(1) The commander of the executing district must determine which personnel are critical to initiation of contingency support operations and which are critical to continued HQ operations.

(2) The time phased deployment organization should designate deployed positions to be filled by the commander's own personnel and those positions to be filled with USACE augmentees from other commands.

(3) Financial management and accounting for all activities executed by USACE, in the area of operations, regardless of funding appropriation.

3-4. Theater Mission Support. The HQ(Fwd) commander is subject to all policies set by the CINC and the Army component commander. It is the district commander's responsibility to assure that all USACE personnel are prepared and that the HQ(Fwd) commander is properly resourced to meet the needs of the CINC.

a. Personnel identified for deployment are to be properly processed, equipped and trained prior to deploying.

b. Generally, USACE commanders will adhere to the Army theater of operations facilities standards as promulgated through the AFCS/TCMS. USACE commanders should be prepared to use other Service standards when requested to support other Services. The AFCS (TCMS provides supporting software which uses the AFCS data bases and standard designs) reflects current Army doctrine, facilities requirements criteria, and minimum theater safety standards.

(1) Theater commanders may require lesser quality of life standards or deviate from doctrine to meet operational requirements.

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(2) As a military contingency support system, AFCS (which is used through TCMS) does not necessarily follow building codes. AFCS designs have minimal factors of safety from both a structural and operational perspective. Commanders must take great care if consideration is given to reducing those safety standards. Questions about specific AFCS designs and factors of safety may be directed to either HQUSACE (CECW-OE-P) or the Huntsville Division AFCS Section per directions in TCMS.